

REMARKS

The objection to the Information Disclosure Statement filed October 17, 2003, is not well taken, because the Information Disclosure Statement included the English version of the Search Report of a foreign patent office the indicated the degree of relevance in a counterpart (parent) application. See MPEP 609 (page 600-129 in Edition 8, Rev. 2. May 2004).

Consideration of all the references supplied is required as originally requested.

The objection to the drawing is traversed by amendment of paragraph 0017 of the specification above. The temperature and impact of heat of the original specification and claims are now coordinated. The sensor is a flow transducer and is arranged as claimed. Moreover, claim 1 is re-cast into improvement form to confirm the known structures of preambular elements that are, therefore, properly shown in the drawing.

The rejection of claim 7 under 35 USC 101 is attended to above by amendment of the claim to eliminate the objected to use.

Claim 10, which corresponds to amended claim 7, is added.

Other claims are broadened by amendment deleting unnecessary limitations. Deletion of limitations does not invoke Festo-like limitations.

The rejection of independent claims 1 and 8 and, thus, the other claims under 35 USC 102 for anticipation by the cited Ohta, et al. patent is traversed by the claimed pressure transducer responsive to gas flow for starting the pump unit. Such flow response is different from and desirably faster than the other arrangements disclosed in the patent.

Ohta relates to a sprinkler head releasing by impact of heat. The document explains that known fire alarm equipments and the fire extinguishing equipments are generally provided installed completely separately causing high costs. As a further problem Ohta also

discloses that one cannot positively know whether a sprinkler discharges or not in known equipments.

Due to the above, this prior art document concerns a totally different problem than the present invention. In the latter, the aim is to initiate feeding of extinguishing medium to a spray head as rapidly as possible after a sprinkler has released.

In Ohta, a sprinkler head serves as a fire detector (column 1, lines 48 and 49). A monitor has been coupled to the sprinkler, said monitor checking the working of the sprinkler and sending an alarm. A pipe 20 is filled with compressed air before the sprinkler 10 is releasing, c. f. Figure 1. A pressure switch for detecting a pressure reduction is provided for showing the breakage of the piping. A pump control panel 64 starts a water pump 42 when receiving a pressure reduction signal from the pump starting pressure switch 58 of a pressure tank 56. Thus, the switch 58 is of the type reacting on change in pressure. This is also apparent from column 5, lines 5 to 8.

Due to the above, Ohta corresponds to the background art referred to on page 1 of the specification of the present application. Ohta is thus expressively an example of such a system having the drawback mentioned in the present application for prior art systems.

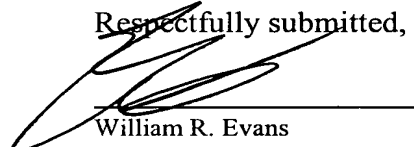
In Figure 13 Ohta discloses a system where a switching unit 164 has been connected to a sprinkler head 110. The switching unit 154 has been connected to an operation monitor 100/. After the sprinkler head 110 is released, gas is starting to flow to the pipe 176. A pressure switch 198 provides an alarm; a valve 174 is opened, and, when a pressure switch 196 senses pressure reduction in pressure tank 194, pump control panel 180 starts a pump 178 (c. f. column 8, paragraph beginning on line 1 and paragraph beginning on line 55 of column 9).

To sum up, Ohta does not disclose any other sensor than a sensor reacting on diminishing pressure to indicate a flow in a piping.

As has been set forth in the specification of the present application, such a sensor reacting on pressure is slow when compared to a sensor reacting to a flow. The present invention discloses a new fire-fighting installation in which feed of medium may very rapidly be initiated by the pump unit to the spray head(s) even if the pressure in the supply line does not decrease rapidly. In many applications it is utmost important that delivery of extinguishing medium can be initiated as fast as possible.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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